

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 11 1976

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC



Horseshoe Bend Battlefield

AND/OR COMMON

Horseshoe Bend National Military Park

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1 P.O. Box 63 Twelve miles North of Dadeville on Alabama Hwy. 49

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Daviston

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3rd

STATE

Alabama

VICINITY OF

01

COUNTY

Tallapoosa

CODE

0123

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☒ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES, RESTRICTED☐ YES, UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☒ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (If applicable)

Southeast Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

1895 Phoenix Blvd.

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

STATE

Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Park Files- Horseshoe Bend National Military Park

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1 Box 63

CITY, TOWN

Daviston

STATE

Alabama

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Building Report- Covered Bridge, Part I

DATE

1960

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Unknown

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☒ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Horseshoe Bend Military Park comprises some 2,040 acres. The terrain varies from uneven or hilly to level. Today it is, for the most part, covered with a forest of mixed pine and hardwood regeneration with a rather dense undergrowth of brush and vines. The Tallapoosa River meanders through the park from northwest to northeast. A U-bend or horseshoe bend in the river forms a peninsula containing about 100 acres. The peninsula is the battleground. Rough, ravine-indented hillsides border the north bank of the river. These wooded hillsides probably look as they did at the time of the battle. The general size and shape of the horseshoe bend and the two islands in the Tallapoosa River have remained relatively unchanged in the 100 years that have elapsed since the battle.

The district is presently maintained to approximate as nearly as possible its appearance at the time of the battle. Land once used extensively by settlers for cultivation of corn and cotton is being allowed to return to timber as it originally existed. Terraces have largely disappeared. The natural reforestation of the hardwoods is encouraged to replace the timber cut by the settlers for lumber and to succeed the loblolly pines subsequently planted and harvested for pulpwood. The scars left on the terrain by sand and gravel pit operations have diminished as a result of vegetative growth. Clearings are maintained where Creek Indians had cleared the timber.

State Hwy. 49 bisects the park in the southwesterly direction. A Visitor Center, maintenance building, and two residences are in close proximity to the highway.

SPECIFIC STRUCTURES AND SITES WITHIN THE DISTRICT

1. HS-#1 Congressional Monument

A granite monument upon a granite base (monument: 89" X 22" X 68"; base: 98" X 31" X 6") erected by authorization of the U.S. Congress in 1918, to commemorate the Battle of Horseshoe Bend. In 1965, the monument was moved approximately 50 feet west of its original location. The monument is in good condition, (early visitors chipped off small pieces of the monument as souvenirs.)

Significance: 2nd order

UTM Reference: 16/618120/3649100

Acreage: Less than .01

Recommended treatment: Preservation and protection as presently engaged in.

Preliminary cost estimate: NONE

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Horseshoe Bend National Military Park commemorates the last battle of the Creek Indian War of 1813-1814. On March 27, 1814 the forces of General Andrew Jackson defeated warriors of the Creek Indian Nation under Chief Menawa. This decisive victory broke the power of the southern Indians; opened the Old Southwest to white settlement, and established Jackson's reputation nationally as a military leader and Indian fighter. The battle derived its name from the barricades made by the Indians within the U-shaped bend of the Tallapoosa River

The land in this area was originally owned by the Creek Indians, one of the five civilized tribes living in the Southeastern United States. DeSoto found the Creeks in 1540 to be a civilized people, living in towns with houses and farm fields. For 250 years, Spain, France, and England competed for Creek trade. England ultimately became the dominant force and Creek dependence on British goods increased. After the American Revolution, the Creek tribe established relations with the United States and in 1790 signed the Treaty of New York which defined Creek land boundaries and guaranteed American friendship. Many of the Creeks followed the United States program for improving their agriculture and living standards. The Lower Creeks of Georgia lived closer to white settlements and fell under their influence more than did the Upper Creeks of Alabama.

In February 1813, civil war broke out between the Upper and Lower Creeks. Apparent causes were Upper Creek opposition to the white man's program, white squatters on Creek lands, the general advance of the American frontier, and Indian nationalism.

The conflict grew beyond the boundaries of a tribal feud when white settlers became involved. After several futile attempts by Mississippi and Georgia militia to crush the rebellion, the Tennessee militia was mobilized by Andrew Jackson for a full-scale campaign. Despite several setbacks, Jackson's forces were able to push southward to the vicinity of the village of Tohopeka. There, inside the "Horseshoe Bend" of the Tallapoosa River, the Creek warriors waited for battle. They hoped to be protected by the encircling river and a log barricade they had erected across the open end of the peninsula.

Outnumbered by more than three to one, the Creeks suffered a calamitous defeat. As a result, they ceded some 20 million acres of land to the United States. These Creek lands, comprising three-fifths of the present state of Alabama and one-fifth of Georgia, were added to the United States and opened for settlement.

The victory at Horseshoe Bend gained Andrew Jackson national fame and was the first step on the road to the White House. Nine months later he defeated the British at New Orleans, ending the War of 1812. In 1829, he became President, and the following year signed the Indian Removal Bill, forcing all tribes east of the Mississippi River to move to Oklahoma.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Holland, James W., Andrew Jackson and the Creek War: Victory at the Horseshoe, University of Alabama Press, 1968
- Griffith, Lucille, Alabama: A Documentary History to 1900, University of Alabama Press, 1972.
- Halbert, H.S. and Bell, T.H., The Creek War of 1813 and 1814, University of Alabama Press, 1969 (reprint)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2,040

UTM REFERENCES

1A 16 61 6 9 0 0 3 6 4 7 2 8 0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

1A 16 61 2 0 1 2 5 3 6 5 0 6 1 0

3 1 6 6 1 6 9 1 0 3 6 5 0 5 2 0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

3 1 6 6 2 0 1 4 5 3 6 4 9 0 2 5

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

C R 1 6 61 9345 3648980

D F 16 61 9345 3648580

E G 16 61 8925 3648590

7 H 16 61 8925 3648200

G I 16 61 8545 3648195

H X 16 61 8540 3647310

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET FOR VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Billy D. Stout, Historian, and James F. Kretschmann, Superintendent

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Horseshoe Bend Military Park

August 28, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Route 1, Box 63

205- 234-7111

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Daviston

Alabama

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES _____

NO _____

NONE _____

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is ☒ National _____ State _____ Local _____

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE FEB 9 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE 10-18-76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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2. Daughters of 1812 Monument- HS-#2

A granite monument upon an irregular concrete base (monument: 14" X 7" X 32"; base: 36" X 22" X 4") erected by the U.S. Daughters of 1812 in 1914. The monument is in fair condition with a portion of the top broken off. The monument is significant because it represents the first declaration by Congress that the Battle of Horseshoe Bend was of national significance.

Significance: 3rd order

UTM Reference: 16/618190/3649080

Acreage: Less than .01

Recommended treatment: Preservation and protection as presently engaged in.

Preliminary cost estimate: None

3. Miller Bridge- HS-#3

Originally a wooden, covered bridge erected in 1906-7; now in ruins with only the abutments and four freestanding piers remaining. The abutments are concrete and piers of rock and masonry. The bridge, originally 888 feet long, collapsed in 1963, and the wooden portions were removed. It is the remains of one of the longest covered bridges in the United States.

Significance: 3rd Order

UTM Reference: 16/617720/3649200

Acreage: 2

Recommended Treatment: Preservation as needed

Preliminary cost estimate: None

4. Tohopeka Village Site-HS-#4

A temporary refuge village originally containing some 300 houses. The village was burned by Jackson's Cherokee allies during the battle. The site is presently level, grass-covered with scattered trees. It is a tour stop and is kept well mowed and maintained. The site is significant as the location of a temporary refuge town. Here Creek Indians and their families gathered in an effort to concentrate their forces against those of General Andrew Jackson. The wintered here in crude huts while they constructed the barricade across the peninsula.

Significance: 2nd order

UTM Reference: 16/617620/3648200

Acreage: Approximately 100

Recommended Treatment: Preservation and Protection as presently engaged in.

Preliminary Cost: None

5. New Youka Village Site-HS-#5

A permanent village established by the Upper Creeks in 1777. The village was burned a year before the battle. The site is presently a level, grass and brush covered area. It is not accessible to the public and is mowed only occasionally. The actual location of the village site stretches along the river for approx-

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New Youka Village Site - HS -#5 Continued

imately one mile. UTM references locate the site of the archeological investigation undertaken during the summer of 1973. The town was named for the 1790 Treaty of New York, guaranteeing Creek lands and perpetual friendship with the United States. The village was burned before the battle and its people joined the other refugees at Tohopeka.

Significance: 2nd order

UTM Reference: 16/619970/3649840

Acreage: Approximately 50

Recommended Treatment: Preservation and protection as presently engaged in.

Preliminary Cost Estimate: None

6. Indian Barricade Site-HS-#6

A breastwork constructed by the Creek Indians. It extended some 250 yards across the neck of the peninsula and varied in height from 5 to 8 feet. The barricade was composed of large logs laid upon each other. The site is presently a cleared, grass-covered area. It is a tour stop and is kept mowed and well maintained. It was behind this barricade that the Creek Indians faced the assault of Andrew Jackson's forces. Here more than 900 warriors died--roughly 95 percent of all the Red Stick warriors present.

Significance: 2nd Order

UTM Reference: 16/618170/3648970

Acreage: Approximately 10

Recommended Treatment: Preservation and protection as presently engaged in

Preliminary cost estimate: None

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Verbal Boundary Description

Northeast quarter (NE 1/4), northeast quarter of northwest quarter (NE 1/4 of NW 1/4), northeast quarter of southeast quarter (NE 1/4 of SE 1/4), fractions A, B, C and E of section 15, fractions B, D, and E of section 22; all in township 23 north, range 23 east; also one-half acre known as the Ferry Landing on the south side of the Tallapoosa River in said section 15, more particularly described as follows: Commence at the southwest corner of section 15, township 23 north, range 23 east, Tallapoosa County, Alabama; thence south 89 degrees 00 minutes east 1968 feet to a point; thence north 1 degree 00 minutes west 1267 feet to a point on the southerly bank of the Tallapoosa River and the point of beginning of the parcel herein intended to be described; thence south 52 degrees 00 minutes west 147.6 feet to a point; thence north 38 degrees 00 minutes west 147.6 feet to a point; thence north 52 degrees 00 minutes east 147.6 feet to a point on the southerly bank of the said river; thence upstream along the southerly bank of the river south 38 degrees 00 minutes east 147.6 feet to a point of beginning, and being situated in the east half of the southwest quarter of section 15, township 23 north, range 23 east, Tallapoosa County, Alabama; also a parcel of land known as Miller's Island in the Tallapoosa River just south of the river bridge more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the southwest corner of said section 15, township 23 north, range 23 east, Tallapoosa County, Alabama; thence south 89 degrees 00 minutes east 2605 feet to a point on the west bank of said island, which is the point of beginning; thence north 5 degrees 00 minutes east 220 feet to a point; thence north 8 degrees 00 minutes west 510 feet to a point; thence north 82 degrees 00 minutes east 350 feet to a point; thence north 55 degrees 30 minutes east 75 feet to a point; thence north 82 degrees 00 minutes east 115 feet to a point; thence south 17 degrees 00 minutes east 330 feet to a point; thence south 8 degrees 00 minutes east 270 feet to a point; thence south 77 degrees 45 minutes west 270 feet to a point; thence south 59 degrees 35 minutes west 160 feet to a point; thence south 36 degrees 06 minutes west 650 feet to a point; thence north 5 degrees 00 minutes east 530 feet to the point of beginning, containing 14.11 acres, more or less, and being situated in sections 15 and 22, township 23 north; range 23 east, Tallapoosa County, Alabama. Less and except 5.1 acres in said section 15, township 23 north, range 23 east, previously conveyed by Nora E. Miller to Horseshoe Bend Battle Park Commission, described as follows: Beginning at a point which is 13 chains and 51 links south 75 degrees 30 minutes west of a point on the west line of section 14, township 23 north, range 23 east, which is 69 chains south of the northwest corner of said section 14; thence west 8 chains and 50 links, thence south 6 chains, thence east 8 chains and 50 links thence north 6 chains to the point of beginning.

The above described lands contain 560.66 acres, more or less.

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Section 14, township 23 north, range 23 east; west half of northwest quarter and northeast quarter of northwest quarter of section 23, township 23, north, range 23 east; section 15 and section 22, township 23 north, range 23 east, less and except the following described parts of said sections 15 and 22, township 23 north, range 23 east, known as Alabama Power Company lands, described as follows: Northeast quarter (NE $\frac{1}{4}$), northeast quarter of northwest quarter (NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$), northeast quarter of southeast quarter (NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$), fractions A, B, C, and E of section 15; fractions B, D, and E of section 22; all in township 23 north, range 23 east; also one-half acre known as the Ferry Lading on the south side of the Tallapoosa River in section 15, more particularly described as follows: Commence at the southwest corner of section 15, township 23 north, range 23 east, Tallapoosa County, Alabama; thence south 89 degrees 00 minutes east 1968 feet to a point; thence north 1 degree 00 minutes west 1267 feet to a point on the southerly bank of the Tallapoosa River and the point of beginning of the parcel herein intended to be described; thence south 52 degrees 00 minutes west 147.6 feet to a point; thence north 52 degrees 00 minutes east of 147.6 feet to a point on the southerly bank of said River; thence upstream along the southerly bank of the river south 38 degrees 00 minutes east 147.6 feet to the point of beginning, and being situated in the east half of the southwest quarter of section 15, township 23 north, range 23 east Tallapoosa County, Alabama; also a parcel of land known as Miller's Island in the Tallapoosa River just south of the river bridge more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the southwest corner at said section 15, township 23 north, range 23 east, Tallapoosa County, Alabama; thence south 89 degrees 00 minutes east 2605 feet to a point on the west bank of said island, which is the point of beginning; thence north 5 degrees 00 minutes east 220 feet to a point; thence north 8 degrees 00 minutes west 510 feet to a point; thence north 82 degrees 00 minutes east 350 feet to a point; thence north 55 degrees 30 minutes east 75 feet to a point; thence north 82 degrees 00 minutes east 115 feet to a point; thence south 17 degrees 00 minutes east 330 feet to a point; thence south 8 degrees 00 minutes east 270 feet to a point; thence south 77 degrees 45 minutes west 270 feet; thence south 59 degrees 35 minutes west 160 feet to a point; thence south 36 degrees 06 minutes west 650 feet to a point; thence north 5 degrees 00 minutes east 530 feet to the point of beginning, containing 14.11 acres, more or less, and being situated in sections 15 and 22, township 23 north, range 23 east, Tallapoosa County, Alabama. Less and except 5.1 acres in said section 15, township 23 north, range 23 east, previously conveyed by Nora E. Miller to Horseshoe Bend Battle Park Commission, described as follows: Beginning at a point which is 13 chains and 51 links south 75 degrees 30 minutes west of a point on the west line of section 14, township 23 north, range 23 east, which is 69 chains south of the northwest corner of said section 14; thence west 8 chains and 50 links, thence south 6 chains, thence east 8 chains and 50 links, thence north 6 chains to the point of beginning. Said 5.1 acre exception in said section 15 has heretofore been conveyed to the United States of America by patent from state of Alabama.

The above described land contains 1,474.24, more or less.

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Beginning at a point which is thirteen chains and 51 links south 75 degrees 30 minutes west of a point on the west line of section 14 which is 69 chains south of the northeast corner of section 14, thence west 8 chains and 50 links, thence south 6 chains, thence east 8 chains and 50 links, thence north 6 chains to the point of beginning, the said land lying and being in section 15, township 23 north, range 23 east.

The above described lands contain 5.1 acres, more or less.